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**Abstract**

The present invention provides a novel secretory  
/membrane protein associated with adipocyte differentiation  
5 and/or metabolism function, specifically, an adipocyte-derived  
secretory/membrane protein containing amino acid sequence  
which is the same or substantially the same as an amino acid  
sequence represented by SEQ ID NOS: 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16,  
18, 20 or 22, a nucleic acid encoding it, an antibody therefor,  
10 a method of screening prophylactic and/or therapeutic agents  
for diseases involving abnormality of adipocyte  
differentiation/metabolism function using it and/or a kit for  
the screening, a prophylactic and/or therapeutic agent for the  
diseases or a diagnostic agent containing the membrane protein.

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